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**OCTOBER 28, 2005
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
<http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/md>**

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**U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE EMPLOYEES RECEIVE AWARDS FROM THE
ATTORNEY GENERAL**

Two Employees Honored at Department of Justice Ceremony

BALTIMORE, Maryland - United States Attorney for the District of Maryland Rod J. Rosenstein announced that today Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales honored Assistant United States Attorney Harvey Eisenberg and Administrative Officer Gary Wagoner for their outstanding service to the United States Attorney's Office.

The Department of Justice held its 22nd annual Executive Office for United States Attorneys Director's Awards Ceremony today, during which 123 award recipients were recognized for their excellence in law enforcement. Recipients included Assistant United States Attorneys, litigation and information technology support personnel, and others who have made outstanding contributions in federal, state and local law enforcement.

United States Attorney Rod J. Rosenstein joined Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales today to honor the award recipients at the ceremony in the Great Hall of the Department of Justice Building in Washington, D.C.

Assistant United States Attorney Harvey Eisenberg was recognized for Superior Performance as an Assistant U.S. Attorney, in appreciation for his central role in establishing the Maryland Coordination and Analysis Center, a national model for the analysis and dissemination of homeland security information.

Administrative Officer Gary Wagoner was honored for Superior Performance in Administration, as a tribute to his outstanding and creative leadership of the United States Attorney's Office's administrative functions.

“Today we honor some of our best and brightest, some of our most talented and most dedicated,” said Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales. “The men and women we honor today work tirelessly to protect the American people and to safeguard the promise of justice made to every generation. Their efforts are vital to the Justice Department and to our Nation, and I thank them for their service and the sacrifices they make every day.”

While terrorism remains the top priority of the Department of Justice, the Department has continued its mission to enforce all of our nation’s laws, including prosecuting civil rights violations, gang violence and drug crimes, as well as representing our client agencies, conducting civil enforcement, and assisting victims of crime. Crime has dropped to a 30-year low as the Department has employed tough tools and tough penalties against criminals who have victimized the innocent. Between 2000 and 2004, federal gun prosecutions increased 76 percent and the violent crime rate decreased 23 percent.

United States Attorney Rod J. Rosenstein said, "These awards are a credit to the recipients and to all of their hard-working colleagues in the District of Maryland. Harvey Eisenberg and Gary Wagoner have rendered outstanding service to the United States Attorney's Office for many years. Congratulations are due to our entire anti-terrorism team -- David Bauer, Steven Hess and Marcia Murphy -- who worked with Mr. Eisenberg to develop a successful program that is greatly appreciated by our federal, state and local partners and widely emulated by other jurisdictions. Mr. Wagoner also is part of a strong and efficient administrative team that keeps the United States Attorney's Office running smoothly. We are fortunate to have such a talented and dedicated Administrative Division."